Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 18601 091438Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------019974 100341Z /75
R 091340Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1445
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 18601

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, ILO, UN, TS, EG
SUBJ: ILO MEMBERSHIP: TUNISIAN INITIATIVE

REF (A) CAIRO 18322, (B) CAIRO 18015,

1. ASKED FAHMY TODAY IF HE INTENDS RAISE WITH NOUIRA IN TUNIS THE MATTER OF A POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN/TUNISIAN INITIATIVE ALONG THE LINES WE SUGGESTED. FAHMY SAID DID NOT SEE HOW HE COULD DO SO WITH ALL THE ARAB FONMINS PRESENT IN TUNIS. HE THEN CLAIMED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN A NOUIRA INITIATIVE AT ALL. INSTEAD, WHEN CHATTY ASKED NOUIRA ABOUT IT AFTER THE EGYPTIAN CHARGE'S QUERY, NOUIRA HAD SAID THE IDEA WAS PROPOSED TO HIM BY THE AMERICAN AMB. CHATTY HAD AFFIRMED NOUIRA'S AGREEMENT TO SUPPORT IT IF SADAT TOOK THE LEAD, BUT HAD COMMENTED THAT NOUIRA HAD NO IDEA OF WHAT HE WAS GETTING INTO WHEN MAKING SUCHA COMMITMENT. IF THE OPPORTUNITY AROSE, FAHMY SAID HE WOULD SOUND OUT CHATTY ON HIS CURRENT THINKING. HOEVER, FAHMY REITERATED HIS EARLIER VIEW THAT OUR ACTION IN ANNOUNCING WITHDRAWAL FROM ILO MAKES IT DIFFICUL TO HELP. HE WAS CONVINCED THAT OUR ACTION WAS PROMPTED PRIMARILY AS A SOP TO AFL-CIO LEADER GEORGE MEANY.

2. FAHMY INDICATED THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED AMRE MOUSSA TO STUDY
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 18601 091438Z

HOW GOE MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP, BUT EMPHASIZED IT IS A TRICKY MATTER FOR GOE AND HAS TO BE THOUGHT THROUGH CAREFULLY. HE THEN ASKED IF THERE HAD BEEN ANY REACTION TO HIS PROPOSAL ABOUT " "FREEZING" OUR MEMBERSHIP COUPLED WITH PROGRESSIVE REDUCTION OF OUR CONTRIBUTION AS A PRESSURE DEVICE TO GET THE DESIRED ILO REFORMS (REF A). TOLD HIM NO RESPONSE YET RECEIVED, BUT RECALLED I HAD EARLIER POINTED OUT THAT HIS IDEA HARDLY PRAC-

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

TICAL IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. FAHMY STILL THOUGHT THIS OUGHT TO BE CONSIDERED.

3. FAHMY THEN NOTED THAT ISRAEL HAS DECIDED TO REMAIN IN THE ILO. HE THOUGHT IT IRONICAL THAT WE HAVE LEFT THE ILO BECASUE OF ISRAEL ONLY TO FIND THAT ISRAEL HAS CHOSEN TO REMAIN IN. I AGAIN EMPHASIZED TO HIM THAT OUR DECISION TO WITHDRAW WAS NOT TAKEN BECAUSE OF ISRAELIS, BUT BECAUSE OF OUR OWN CONCERN THAT ESTABLISHED AND SOUND ILO PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY IGNORED IN PAST FEW YEARS. FAHMY'S RESPONSE WAS THAT NO ARAB CAN BE CONVINCED OF THIS.

4. WE ARE CONTINUING TO WORK WITH AMRE MOUSSA ON THIS MATTER.
EILTS

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 09-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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